

Tenebrionidæ, except that the larva is less retiring in its habits and wanders about on foliage; it is of broader form than that of most of the Tenebrionidæ. The pupa has long projections at the sides of the abdominal segments."

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## SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES ON OPHIDERMA FAIRM. (HEMIP.—HOMOP.).

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In 1894 Dr. Goding published a description of a supposedly new species of this genus under the name *flaviguttula*, based upon one female specimen taken in Illinois. A discussion of its status was included in a paper by me in the December 1919 number of the JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Vol. XXVII, pp. 251-3), in which were listed four specimens of *Ophiderma flaviguttula*, all females, including one in the National Museum determined as such by Dr. Goding himself. In the December 1920 number of that JOURNAL (Vol. XXVIII, p. 214) I cited still another example, taken at Newark, N. J. The foregoing were all so assigned on the basis of the accuracy of determination by its author of the National Museum specimen, notwithstanding the fact that the original description made no reference to the mid-elytral band present in all of them, as well as in my so-called variety *definita*, and in spite of certain other slight inconsistencies pointed out in my paper first cited.

Since those papers were published Dr. Goding has generously presented his type material to the National Museum, and on a recent visit to Washington I availed myself of the opportunity to examine his type of *flaviguttula*. It proves to be a female of *pubescens* Emmons, as suspected by Van Duzee in his "Studies" (Bull. Buffalo Soc. Nat. Hist., 1908, Vol. IX, p. 98). That it should have been redescribed by Dr. Goding is not at all surprising in view of the fact that Emmons's description (Nat. Hist. of N. Y., Vol. V, p. 157) was evidently based upon a male specimen, and that his figure (loc. cit., Pl. 13, Fig. 2—erroneously cited in the text as Fig. 3), while a good representation of that sex of his species, naturally gave no clue to the appearance of

the female, which was doubtless unknown to him. At any rate Dr. Goding apparently regarded Emmons's description of *pubescens* as a redescription of the very similar but larger male of *salamandra* Fairmaire; and finding no description or figure that fitted his female specimen, nor, by reason of his consignment of Emmons's species to synonymy, any recognized male with which to associate it, felt warranted in describing it and giving it a name. Abundant material of both sexes of *salamandra* and *pubescens* are before me, including copulating pairs of each, and there can be no doubt that *flaviguttula* Godg. must fall into the synonymy of *pubescens* Emmons.

This raises my *definita*, which through my misconception of Goding's *flaviguttula* I had described as a variety of that species, to full specific rank. The five specimens referred by me in the above-cited papers to Dr. Goding's species, including not only the one determined by him as such, but the Bronxville specimen described by me under his designation (N. Y. ENT. Soc. JOUR., Vol. XXVII, p. 253), are to be regarded as pale examples of *definita* Woodr.

This species is strongly characterized by the dark mid-elytral band, with more or less bright red and black defining the pattern on posterior half of pronotum. Figures 5 and 6 of plate XXIII accompanying my paper first referred to exhibit respectively the pale and dark forms of this species, figure 5 being that of the Bronxville specimen covered by the detailed description on page 253 of that paper, and figure 6 the designated type of *definita*. In many specimens, too, the normal ante-apical vitta, not evidently indicated in the figures, though referred to as obsolete in the description of the Bronxville specimen, appears as clearly defined as are the other markings. The situation of dorsal outline shown in figure 6 is individual, and not a specific character.

It should perhaps be noted that while I regarded the prevailing dark form with sharply defined colors and pattern as worthy of a distinctive though varietal name from what I then supposed to be the valid name of the pale form, I do not regard the converse to be true. In this group as a whole the several species frequently exhibit great variation in the amount of their pigmentation; and varietal names based upon that character alone, unless circumstances seem to require them, but add cumbersomeness to the nomenclature. The rather unusual pale forms are simply pale examples of *definita* Woodr.

An interesting specimen of *O. evelyna* Woodr. has come to hand. It is structurally a perfectly normal female; but the color and pattern of its left side, instead of showing the usual unmarked green of that sex, is as in the male—pale yellow; dorsum from about middle to apex light reddish brown, crossed by a broad subapical transverse vitta of the anterior yellow. The right side is wholly normal. Similar masquerading in the colors of the opposite sex has been observed in the allied genera *Cyrtolobus* (including *Atymna* and *Xantholobus*) and *Telamona*; though here one needs to be on one's guard in sex determination because of the frequency of parasitism, and consequent distortion and malformation of the genital organs. This species, *O. evelyna*, proves to be a very common one in our southern states, in Alabama apparently favoring *Quercus coccinea* as its host plant.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF JANUARY 16.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P.M., on January 16, 1923, President H. B. Weiss in the chair, with twelve members and three visitors present.

On nomination by Mr. Woodruff the following new members were elected:

Walter Everts, 245 West 69th St., New York City.

Dr. Charles A. Leale, 500 Madison Ave., New York City.

Mr. Davis exhibited six boxes of "Tabanid Flies of Staten Island and Long Island" and spoke of the impetus given to his studies by the work of Daecke, Hine, and Dr. Bequaert, as well as of the characteristics of various species of deer flies, horse flies, etc. Also of George Franck's experiences in collecting Tabanids from a tame cow.

Dr. Bequaert said that it was essential to have a really tame cow for the purpose and gave some instances of narrow escapes in Africa from cows that were only apparently tame. He had found a tent closed at one end with mosquito net, a help in collecting, and had obtained many specimens from dark corners on river steamboats. He gave some figures on the number of species thus far known from New Jersey, 82, Staten Island, 46, Long Island, 35, whole world, 2,200, as indicated by Sourcouf's work in *Genera Insectorum*. He reviewed Enderlein's work on the preliminary classification and that of Marchand and others on the life history. The difficulty of keeping Tabanids in captivity is increased by their exceedingly rapid flight, in which they destroy themselves against the cage. A double cage 20 x 15 feet with walls of mosquito net within the wire gauze had been tried.